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Peace Day in the Schools.

The Secretary of the American Peace Society, acting under the authority of the Board of Directors, has sent the following letter to the Superintendents of Public Instruction of all the States and Territories:

FEBRUARY 16, 1907.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION:

Dear Sir: A year ago a letter was sent you from this office, as to the other State Superintendents of Public Instruction, inviting your coöperation in securing the observance of the 18th of May, the anniversary of the opening of the Hague Conference in 1899, as Peace Day in the public schools.

The responses received all expressed sincere sympathy with the object in view, namely, the emphasizing of the blessings of peace, the practicability of arbitration in the settlement of disputes, and the duty of cultivating sentiments of genuine respect and friendship towards other nations.

In six States — Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Jersey, Ohio and Kansas — the Superintendents of Public Instruction promptly took the matter up, and in a letter addressed to the superintendents and teachers of the State recommended the observance of the day by suitable exercises in the schools. The result was that in many cities and towns of these States the day was appropriately observed, either by exercises by the pupils themselves or by brief addresses by teachers or speakers from the neighborhood. Other State superintendents expressed their approval, and their purpose to coöperate hereafter. In a few cases superintendents did not think it desirable to suggest the addition of another special day to those already observed.

In renewing this year the request for the observance of the day, we venture to suggest that, in view of the rapid progress of the International Peace Movement and of the nations towards unity and friendly coöperation, there is no subject more worthy than this to be strongly and frequently impressed upon the minds of the youth. What the children in the schools are made to-day, that not only the nation but the world will be to-morrow. The high duty of our country to humanity must not be overlooked.

The experience of the schools the past year proves that the pupils quickly respond to appeals in behalf of humanity and universal benevolence, often with real enthusiasm. An hour, or even half an hour, devoted to this subject is all that is suggested. This will not interfere materially with the regular school exercises, and the new spirit aroused will often compensate many times over for the time used.

The American Peace Society is glad to place its literature, at a merely nominal price, at the service of superintendents and teachers who may desire to use it in making preparation for the day.

Hoping that you may see your way this year to recommend the observance of the 18th of May (or the preceding Friday, as the 18th is Saturday) in the schools of your State, I am, on behalf of the Board of Directors,

Yours very sincerely,

BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD,

Secretary.

Protests Against the Overshadowing Militarism of the Jamestown Program.

Episcopal Bishops' Protest.

The fact that the triennial meeting of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church at Jamestown, Va., and the celebration of the ter-centennial of its establishment in America coincides with the coming national Exposition there, furnishes an occasion and perhaps creates a duty for the expression of a criticism upon the proposed program of the Exposition by the bishops of the church — ministers of the gospel of peace.

In common with many others throughout the country, we have been surprised and shocked at the transformation of the program, which has now gone so far as only too fully to warrant the announcement which is made that the Exposition will be primarily a military and naval celebration. That an international military and naval celebration was to have conspicuous place in the Exposition's program, as provided for by Congress in 1905, was well known, and may have been conventionally proper; but the purpose to make the Exposition "the greatest military spectacle the world has ever seen" was not known, was not avowed, and has clearly been a gradually-evolving purpose, whose carrying out as now so elaborately detailed in the Exposition's official organ and advertised throughout the country can only work immense mischief to the country and to the world.

The present program is utterly different in its order and proportions from that given when the plan of the Exposition was first submitted to the public, when the various States were asked for and granted large financial support to insure its success. We are unwilling to believe that many of our States would, with knowledge of the predominant features of the present program, in which an amount double the government's total original grant to the Exposition is to be devoted to military pageant alone, have made such appropriations. We are confident that such a plan as that now announced, calculated to stir up the fever of military excitement and emulation in our people at a time when that is precisely what we should all most earnestly coöperate to discourage, cannot command the approval of the serious and thoughtful citizens of the Republic.

We are glad to express our appreciation of the many useful, educational and industrial features in the Exposition's program. But no usefulness of these can compensate for the harm involved in the overshadowing military features now outlined. The primacy of these features, in our judgment, makes the present plan of the Exposition discordant with the character of our own religious commemoration at Jamestown, incongruous with the historic event which is its occasion, unworthy of this peaceful American Republic, and a gross anachronism at a time when our own nation is to unite with the nations of the world in deliberations in behalf of the supplanting of the hoary wrongs and vanities of war by the rational and worthy methods of international justice. We solemnly protest against it.

Francis Key Brooke, Bishop of Oklahoma and Indian Territory; Ellison Capers, Bishop of South Carolina; Joseph Blount Cheshire, Bishop of North Carolina;

George D. Gillespie, Bishop of Western Michigan; William Hobart Hare, Bishop of South Dakota; Junius M. Horner, Bishop of Asheville; James Steptoe Johnston, Bishop of Western Texas; William N. McVickar, Bishop of Rhode Island; William W. Niles, Bishop of New Hampshire; Charles Sanford Olmsted, Bishop of Colorado; Arthur L. Williams, Coadjutor Bishop of Nebraska; Charles D. Williams, Bishop of Michigan; Charles E. Woodcock, Bishop of Kentucky.

Protest of the Peace Association of Friends of Philadelphia.

To the President of the Jamestown Exposition Company and the Board of Governors:

We, members of the Society of Friends, feel impelled to make a respectful protest against the extraordinary emphasis which you propose to lay upon military and naval splendor at the coming exposition to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of the first English settlement in America.

The historic attitude of our branch of the Church toward all war as contrary to the spirit of human brotherhood taught by Christ is well known. We are not so narrow as to expect all to conform to our standards, but we are convinced that your exaltation of the arts of war in your Exposition program, in comparison with the emphasis laid upon the arts of peace, is contrary to the genius of the American people.

We believe that your program of military and naval display will have the effect of deliberately glorifying the war spirit as the most effective agent for accomplishing the progress of civilization, and will exert a powerful influence to pervert the lessons taught by history.

In the name, therefore, of humanity and of American ideals, we most respectfully and urgently petition you to endeavor to change the emphasis in your plans, and thus redeem your great Exposition from the stigma of ministering to the vanity and passions rather than to the ideals of our nation.

Signed in behalf of the Peace Association of Friends of Philadelphia.

JOHN B. GARRETT, *President.*
H. W. CADBURY, *Secretary.*

Protest from the Women of the Abraham Lincoln Centre, Chicago.

JANUARY 22, 1907.

"To the President and Board of Managers of the Jamestown Exposition:

"Gentlemen: We, the undersigned, members of the Study Classes of Abraham Lincoln Centre, Chicago, and their friends, do solemnly protest, as mothers, sisters, daughters, and wives, against the reactionary and war-like program of the Jamestown Exposition, as given in the official organ of the Exposition.

"Upon women the burdens of war press with cruel weight, and it is to us painful in the extreme to see American youth subjected to the influences destructive of the ideals of peace and misled by the 'enticing splendors of war.' We believe that the noblest triumphs of our four hundred years of history have been not the events of war, but the progress of industry and the advancement of the arts of peace, and we earnestly petition you as officers of the Exposition to reduce the military display to the inconspicuous place it has heretofore occupied in American expositions."

What the Attitude of the Church Should be toward the Jamestown Naval and Military Program.

ADDRESS OF THE PEACE ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS OF PHILADELPHIA TO THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF THE COUNTRY.

PHILADELPHIA, February 12, 1907.

Dear Friend: As fellow-workers for the good of humanity and the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ, the Prince of Peace, we earnestly ask you to consider what the attitude of the Church should be toward the proposed naval and military program of the approaching Jamestown Exposition.

The management has advertised the greatest naval and military display in the world's history, and proposes a program which appeals to the lower instincts of our people and tends to influence the passion for militarism for which our country has so far been enviably free. The program includes "a magnificent pyrotechnic reproduction of war scenes," "the greatest array of gorgeous military uniforms of all nations ever seen in any country," "the grandest military and naval demonstration ever attempted in any age by any nation," and "a great living picture of war with all its enticing splendors."

All this presents war as "a thing of splendor, a pageant and a game," while in reality it is a horror and a crime against civilization and humanity. A national exposition should be a great educational influence: this program exalts the war spirit as the most effective agent in the progress of our country, and perverts the lessons taught by history.

The historic attitude of our branch of the Church toward all war as contrary to the spirit of human brotherhood taught by Christ is well known. We are not so narrow as to expect all our fellow-Christians to adopt our point of view, but in this instance we feel it our duty to appeal to you to use your influence toward lessening this danger to the highest religious and moral life of our people.

It may be too late to change the most prominent features of the Jamestown program, but it is not too late to modify the more objectionable elements, and to educate public sentiment to estimate the naval and military side of the Exposition at its true value.

To this end we urge you to appeal to the sentiment of your church, first, to petition the President and Board of Governors of the Jamestown Exposition Company, Norfolk, Va., to change the emphasis in their plans, and thus redeem this great Exposition from the stigma of ministering to the vanities and passions, rather than to the ideals, of our nation; and, secondly, to enlighten and rouse the public conscience upon this question, so that those who visit the Exposition, or learn of it through the press, may look upon it from a Christian point of view, and so be strengthened to resist the insidious appeal made to false patriotism.

May all who work and pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God on the earth be united in this cause.

Signed on behalf and by authority of the Peace Association of Friends of Philadelphia.

JOHN B. GARRETT, *President.*
H. W. CADBURY, *Secretary.*